



Pasadena Japanese Cultural Institute

pjci.org

WINTER 2016



YOUR VOTE COUNTS



PJCI General Meeting

MONDAY, JANUARY 16, 2017, 7:00 P.M.

The Pasadena Japanese Cultural Institute will hold our Annual General Meeting on Monday, January 16, 2017 at 7:00 pm where we will elect our Board of Directors and vote to accept updated and revised By-Laws for our organization. If you are unable to attend, please complete and send in your Proxy so that it is received before the meeting. Your vote is important!

Our Annual Awards Luncheon will take place on Sunday, March 5, 2017 where we will honor outstanding individuals who have served our community as well as recognizing the achievements of many of our youth. Look out for your invitation in early February.

Thank you to all the volunteers who made this year's Annual Bazaar a big success. We also would like to thank all the sponsors and our members for your loyal generosity. Your support helps the center to continue offering our many programs and activities to the community. We look forward to your ongoing support!

As we close out 2016, we wish everyone a wonderful holiday and best wishes for a healthy, happy and successful new year!

BRYAN TAKEDA, PRESIDENT
PASADENA JAPANESE CULTURAL INSTITUTE

Shotokan Karate News

Greetings to the PJCI community! A lot has happened in Pasadena Shotokan Karate over the last 3 months. First of all the dojo continues to grow. Besides the 3 instructors we now have 11 solidly committed members. All are serious about their Karate and work hard during practice to learn Karate skills and polish their technique. Most of them practice seriously on their own which is evident in their rapid progress. Nearly half of our students are working hard at bringing their Karate knowledge and skills together to execute devastating techniques and develop other important fighting skills – covering distance, accuracy, timing, speed and form. The last three months of training have emphasized both Kata – pre-arranged techniques executed in a flowing style or ‘form’ - and Kumite – sparring against other Karate-ka.



Students participating in the Pasadena/Caltech joint practice in November.

A very special event took place at Pasadena Dojo on 8/22/16 – a continuation of the Shotokan Karate of America's (SKA) 60th anniversary with a practice at Pasadena Shotokan Dojo. Ono Sensei (Japan SOD and former student of Ohshima Sensei) led the practice which was attended by Karate-ka from around the world – Spain, France (and others) and members of Maryknoll Dojo based in Los Angeles. There was also a large contingent of Japanese Karate-ka from Waseda University Karate club and Japan SOD members. Ono Sensei led an advanced practice with a focus on Kumite, specifically learning to read the mind of the opponent so that one could attack when the opponent has decided he will attack. It should also be mentioned that members

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Wanted: Youth Community Service Award Nominations

Know of any young person that you feel is deserving of recognition for helping the Pasadena area community or any community organization? The Amy Utsunomiya Memorial Youth Community Service Award nominating committee will be accepting nominations through mid January. The award is intended to recognize and encourage young people that have helped the greater Pasadena Japanese American community in some way during 2016. If you have any questions or have a nominee in mind, please contact Wade Utsunomiya at (626) 799-7719, or utsunomiya@earthlink.net.



PNS NY Party – January 29, 2017

The Pasadena Nikkei Seniors would like to wish everyone a very joyous holiday season. The date for our 2017 PNS New Year Party has been set for Sunday, January 29, so please save that date on your calendars. For the first time in many years the party will NOT be held on Super Bowl Sunday. A PNS newsletter with further details will be mailed to members shortly after the New Year. If you aren't a PNS member and would like to join or learn more about the NY Party, please contact Ron Toshima at (626) 799-6684 or toshima@sbcglobal.net.

A PNS November bus trip to Pala Casino proved so popular that another visit to Pala is being scheduled for January. Again, details will be announced in the upcoming PNS newsletter, but if you'd like to reserve a spot on the bus now, please contact Wade Utsunomiya at (626) 799-7719.

****And please remember to complete and mail the Proxy that was mailed to you recently.**

Shotokan

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of Pasadena Dojo also attended the practices and festivities at Shotokan Ohshima Dojo in Santa Barbara the previous Saturday and Sunday. SKA is the oldest Karate organization in the U.S. and the only one led by a direct student of Master Gichen Funakoshi, Tsutomu Ohshima Sensei.

“The correct understanding of karate and its proper use is Karate-do. One who truly trains in this Do and actually understands Karate-do is never easily drawn into a fight. One attack or a single kick determines life or death! Karate is properly applied only in those rare situations in which one really must either down another or be downed by him.”

MASTER GICHIN FUNAKOSHI, FOUNDER OF SHOTOKAN KARATE

Our Dojo participated in the PJCI Fall Bazaar on 10/2/16 by both running a food table ('Chile Rice') and doing a demonstration for the community. Our Dojo leader, Evan Viera, led the demonstration and provided running commentary and explanations of what students were demonstrating. The demonstration was well received and our members enjoyed meeting other members of the community and getting to know each other better.

We also had a combined practice with Caltech Shotokan Karate on 11/5/16. Caltech Dojo leader, Chris Finch, and five of the members of Caltech Dojo, joined nine members of our Dojo for a spirited Karate practice led by Evan Viera, Sandan. At one point the Karate-ka were split into two groups so that Evan could train the advanced students (Black and Brown belts) in Kumite while Mike Sanchez instructed the white belts in basic Kata. Everyone had a good work out and learned valuable things. We hope to have more combined practices in the coming year.

Our members, on 11/17/16, participated in a Kyu test – an opportunity to express ones understanding of Karate techniques and principles and be evaluated by Instructors. We are happy to announce that the 6 members who tested all passed and were pro-

Kendo News

In September, the Southern California Kendo Federation (SCKF) held their team championships at Wilson Park in Torrance. Congratulations to our youth boys team (Cedrik DeGuzman, Andrew Ochiai, and James Chilingerian) for placing 3rd in their group.

In October, the SCKF held their fall shinsa (promotional exams) and we had a few students receive new ranks. Congratulations to Sam Crawford (3 dan), Mark DeGuzman (1 dan), Cedrik DeGuzman (1 dan), Maureen DeGuzman (1 kyu), James Chilingerian (1 kyu), Andrew Ochiai (1 kyu), Jonathan Hartzberg (3 kyu), Lydia Miles (3 kyu), Kai Hartzberg (3 kyu), Bella Chavez (4 kyu), Regina Cecilia (4 kyu), and Kei Hartzberg (4 kyu).

For more information on the classes, please visit our website at pasadenakendo.com or contact James Yamasaki at jmyamasaki@yahoo.com. We take new beginners in January and July only.

moted in rank. The comment of those who evaluated their performance was that they all gave solid demonstrations of their Karate, had strong spirits and had clearly trained very hard.

The New Year is upon us and maybe you are thinking about those New Years Resolutions... keep Karate practice in mind - a great way to start creating a better (stronger) you! All are welcome to question, come and watch and even practice, with us.



SPECIAL DISCOUNTS FOR PJCI MEMBERS

Present your current membership card to receive the discount shown.

► **10% off any purchase**

Flower Mart

9177 Las Tunas Dr. | Temple City, CA 91780 | (626) 286-8858

► **10% off**

Affinity Associates / Print and Promotional Products

595 Lincoln Ave., Suite 207 | Pasadena, CA 91103 | (626) 396-9927

► **10% off any over-the-counter purchase**

Berry & Sweeney Pharmacy

1377 N. Fair Oaks Ave. | Pasadena, CA 91103 | (626) 794-1124

► **10% off**

Johnny's Sport Shop

1402 Lincoln Ave. | Pasadena, CA 91103 | (626) 797-8839

► **15% off**

Burkard Nursery

690 N. Orange Grove Blvd. | Pasadena, CA 91103 | (626) 796-4355

► **10% off any plate lunch**

L & L BBQ, Pasadena

319 S. Arroyo Parkway #10 | Pasadena, CA 91105 | (626) 583-4960

